



My name is Jesse Thornton, born and raised in Point Pleasant, West Virginia. Current resident of Huntington, West Virginia. Avid explorer, student of the sciences, and dreamer.

As a photographer, my goal is to showcase what we have in the state of West Virginia by utilizing all the tools at my disposal, from my camera to my computer. I put a strong emphasis on my home state of West Virginia because I firmly believe that one does not need to travel far or spend outrageous amounts of money to see some fantastic sites, whether it be during the day or night. We have some of the richest and most diverse environments of any one state that changes throughout the year, we may be one of America's best kept secrets. My hope is to spark an urge to get out there and see for yourself!

I've developed a particular fondness for the night sky, which is something that I feature often in my photography. I'm saddened by the fact that we are quickly losing our night skies to light pollution. Many people live their entire lives without ever seeing the Milky Way. How can you miss something that you never had to begin with?

I'm fortunate enough to live in a state where near complete darkness can still be found; where the Milky Way is still visible from horizon to horizon, one of the very few bastions on the East coast where this is still possible.

The starry sky has inspired humankind throughout history - to advance us culturally and scientifically. It's given us perspective on our place in the universe and allowed us to dream bigger. It's an endangered ecosystem that every living creature depends on, including ourselves. I feel a certain obligation to document what we're losing because so few people know about the issue.

